

BUSY TIMES FOR LOCAL YACHTSMEN.

Amateur Sailors Getting Their Craft in Trim for the Coming Season.

All the Club Houses and Yachts Will Go into Commission This Month.

THE RACING OUTLOOK PROMISING.

In Addition to the Regular Classes the Half Raters Are Expected to Form an Important Feature This Year.

Many New Boats.

In a few weeks the yachting season of 1896 will be opened, and from all indications it will be one of the liveliest ever seen in these waters. The Defender-Valkyrie fizzle of last year, which it was thought would be a knockout blow to yachting for some time to come, seems to have no effect on local enthusiasts, and racing in these waters promises to be more interesting than ever.

The different yacht clubs in this vicinity have all elected their officers for the ensuing year, and the regatta committees are now busy arranging special features for the boat owners. The little half-raters which did so much to keep up the interest in yacht racing last year, will play a prominent part in this year's sport.

No person who has been along the Brooklyn water front during the past week would imagine that yachting or yacht building was likely to become a matter of history, for all the boats, shops and ship yards where yachtsmen and winter quarters for their boats are busy preparing them for the opening of the racing season.

The cold and stormy weather of the last month has kept many of the yacht owners from putting their boats in the water, but the mild weather of the past three or four weeks has aroused them to unusual activity, and many of the smaller boats are already in commission, and hundreds of others are on the ways, ready to launch at a moment's notice.

From Gravesend Bay to Greenpoint all the ship yards present a scene of activity seldom seen except in an international year, when every boat owner vies with his neighbor to get his boat in the water first.

Down at Gravesend Bay the members of the Brooklyn and Gravesend Bay Yacht clubs are directing every energy to get their boats in the water, and many of the small craft are already in commission for the season. At Solihelm's and Stillwell's yards the work on the small yachts goes on unceasingly, and almost every day one or more boats are launched.

At Solihelm's yard fitting out and almost ready to launch, are Robert Brockard's sloop Gael, Commodore Morgan's 30-foot cat Acon, the Grace May, H. E. Kar's Lakshmi, the sloop Viking, and Louis Wunder's cutter Headless. F. H. Converse is having his sloop Diana lengthened by building a new overhanging stern on her, and her interior will be refitted. The half-rater Sismet has been newly painted and varnished, and can be launched at any time.

Near the Brooklyn Yacht Club's property, overhauling and ready to launch, are the cat boats Grace B., G. W. Brown; Adele, A. J. Harrison; Bess, M. J. Hanley; Dorothy, P. B. Steele; Grace E., William Niedhardt, and E. H. Chandler's sloop Iroquois.

The sloop Nomad, W. B. Gratzke; the Paula, Thomas Crohen; Whiteaway, M. H. Morton, and several small boats are on the ways overhauling, and will be ready to launch in a few days.

Mr. E. S. Anderson's catboat Adelle, Brooklyn Yacht Club, was the first boat to be launched from Stillwell's yard. G. H. B. Hill's schooner Ariel, the sloop Pearl, Nantle F., and the catboat Buster, are still on the ways preparing to get off at the first opportunity.

Since the advent of Mr. George J. Gould as commodore, the Atlantic Yacht Club has taken on a new lease of life, and with the able assistance of Mr. Frederick T. Adams, vice-commodore, the season of 1895 was the most successful the club has ever passed through. Commodore Gould has given \$10,000 to buy special prizes for all classes of yachts, and the club will give the usual prizes for regatta races. The club house has been newly painted and varnished and fitted up, and has been open for the convenience of members for the past week, although the club will not go into commission for some weeks to come.

The Regatta Committee has prepared an elaborate programme for the yacht owners, and the coming season's racing promises to be even more interesting than last year's. A number of yachts are fitting out at the foot of Fifty-fifth street, including the schooners Florida, Victor and Iroquois, and the single stickers Olga, Oriole, Golvion, Edlin, Edwin B. Haven's Athlon, and John G. Meehan's Fair Wind.

The steam yacht Cosette, F. L. Osgood, is at Tebo's basin having new Almy boilers put in, and Frederick Gallatin's handsome steam yacht Almy is fitting out at the same place for a long cruise before the summer racing begins. John M. Sawyer has taken his catboat, Arrow, from Tebo's to City Island, where she will be put in shape for the coming racing season.

In the Wallabout Basin the Aquatic Club is fitting out the steam yacht Nettie with new engines and a larger screw, which is expected to increase her speed some three miles an hour. Commodore Alcey L. Baird will command the Nettie this season. The steam launch Mecca, owned by J. Witherby Porter, is fitting out at the same place with Dr. Blaisdell's naphtha launch Etta. Alonzo Peterson's steamer Mary B. and a dozen other smaller steam and naphtha launches.

Up at Steinway, L. I., where the Williamsburg Yacht Club house is situated, the scene of activity among the yacht owners reminds one of the good old times when the Williamsburg club was one of the largest and most prosperous yacht clubs in this vicinity. Under the wise management of Commodore James Schuessel and Secretary William Martin the club has grown wonderfully during the past two years in membership, and between ten and twelve boats have been added to the fleet since last year. The annual regatta, which will be held on Decoration Day, will bring out the largest fleet that the club has had in fifteen years. The improvements made to the club's basin and clubhouse during the winter months have attracted many members, and the club is on the right course for a successful yachting season.

A new triangular course for the small boats has been laid out from the club-

house to a buoy anchored off Old Ferry Point, thence to a buoy off Hunt's Point to the starting point, to be sailed over twice, making a distance of about twelve nautical miles, and every Saturday during the yachting season the Regatta Committee has arranged to have special races for the small boats. The whole of this course can be seen from the veranda of the clubhouse, which has been enlarged on the second story to accommodate the members and their guests who wish to witness the races.

Several of the boats of the Williamsburg Club are in commission, and many more will arrive from their winter quarters during the week. By next Sunday it is expected that nearly the entire fleet will be riding at anchor off the clubhouse. Frank Schudder launched his new thirty-three-foot sloop yesterday, and she will be in sailing trim within a week. District Attorney Daniel Noble's beautiful thirty-four-foot sloop Bel Ami, which was cat-rigged last year, has had an entire new suit of sails made for her by Sawyer & Son, and she will be at her anchorage off the clubhouse on Monday. Commodore Schuessel has fitted his Pastime at Hunter's Cove, and will hoist his colors for the season to-day. William Schillseher has changed the name of his sloop Ruth to Sport. She is hauled out at Ravenswood, where alterations have been made in her rig, and will be launched to-day. Dr. Beach has lengthened his sloop Vision by putting on an overhanging stern and refitting his cabin. She will be in commission in a few days. The sloop Pirate, H. D. Stillman, is having a new keel and centerboard trunk put in, and will come out with an entire new suit of racing sails for the regatta on May 30. The catboats Senator, Philip O. Bishop; Frank, Charles Eardley and Rex, Joseph Lang, are all ready to launch, and will go into commission this week. John Law's catboat Pilot has been in commission two weeks, and was the first of the Williamsburg fleet to hoist her colors for the season. John Clifford's big cat Harvest has been overhauled at Hunter's Cove, and will be at her anchorage on Monday for the season.

At College Point the pleasant weather has brought out a large number of boat owners of the Knickerbocker Yacht Club, and the work of scraping spars and sails and painting is being pushed forward. Among the boats already in commission are the sloops Ophir Fay, C. A. Winter; Atche, E. A. Fairchild; Aris, Robert Jacob; Wyanoke, H. E. Winter, and Active, John Phillips. The sloop Dawsch, owned by E. H. Peck, has been raised six inches and received a general overhauling. James M. Pryor's yawl Zela, the cutter Henrietta, F. Pollan, and J. J. Honey's schooner Gabrielle are undergoing repairs at the same place.

The Penatquit Corinthian Yacht Club was organized at Bay Shore last week with seventeen members and sixteen boats. The fleet will be composed of two steamers, two naphtha launches, seven sloops and five catboats. A clubhouse will be built on the shore as soon as a suitable site can be purchased.

The little half-raters will furnish a good deal of the sport at Jamaica Bay this season. Harry Rigby, the veteran boat builder of Canarsie, has contracted for fifteen of these toy racers for the New York Canoe Club, and nearly all the boat builders along the shore have orders to build these little racers for private parties. Two of Rigby's boats were finished last week, and in a trial spin proved to be remarkably fast. The Jamaica Bay half-raters differ from the English models by having a gaff main-sail instead of a leg of mutton sail, and experts who have seen them sail are much pleased with the change, as they work to windward better than the old style and stand up better in strong winds and rough water.

Thirteen Brooklyn lawmakers who sat in the Legislature of 1895 were winoed and dined by their respective constituents at the close of the session in recognition of services rendered. None of the Brooklyn caterers have been summoned to spread a feast for any of the gentlemen who returned from Albany last week.

It is an interesting coincidence that Police Justice Henry Haggerty, who retired from office Thursday, has had eleven years of salaried public service. He is the Democratic leader of the Eleventh Ward, and frank enough to admit that he expects at least eleven years more in the pay of the people.

A member of the Mayor's cabinet said yesterday that there was every reason to believe that the Brooklyn delegates to the Republican convention in St. Louis would split between Reed and McKinley after the State delegation had talked things over. Perhaps some one can guess who the commissioner is who made the statement.

Hugh McLaughlin is paying more attention to real estate investments nowadays than to anything else. No longer ago than Wednesday he failed to keep an appointment for a school-politician, and a rumor that he might look up a piece of property which he fancied as to price, etc.

The close connection between the saloon and politics was made apparent yesterday when, in the headquarters of Colonel Michels, the Brooklyn Deputy Excise Commissioner, no less than twenty-two prominent Republicans were gathered at one time. Several ex-officio holders were busy in the rooms of the Democratic Central Committee in the Thomas Jefferson assisting anxious purveyors of ales, wines, liquors and cigars in preparing blanks for new licenses.

Ex-Pie Commissioner John Ennis and his associates in the Fifteenth Ward are by degrees getting acquainted with the political figures in Queens County politics, to the end that should consolidation come they may promptly have an alliance between them.

Mayor Wurster said yesterday that he would not take any extended vacation this summer. He desires to be at his desk five days of every week, so that no inexperienced hand may grasp the helm of the municipal ship and perhaps throw her out of her course.

Coroner Nason is of the opinion that the income from his official position is scarcely what it should be.

A close friend of the Police Commissioner inadvertently dropped a hint yesterday that another transfer of men who wear the blue may be expected in a short time. The plan, it is said, contemplates the shifting of some friends of Senator Coffey and ex-Register Kane to other precincts.

When the little park in the Twelfth Ward is completed and ready for the use of the public a memorial bronze of Michael J. Coffey may be considered.

The Brooklyn Silver Service. Work has been begun on the silver service which is to be presented to the cruiser Brooklyn. The service will number three hundred pieces, large and small, and it will be ready by August 1, several months before the Brooklyn is ready to receive it.

Old-Time Vigor Displayed. Mechanics are engaged in the work of remodeling the City Hall. They are working with the vigor of old-time New York workmen. It is believed that they will finish the job before 1900 if the weather is good.

A SURPRISE FOR MR. KELLY

The Collector of Internal Revenue Presented with the Basket of Roses by His Friends.

John C. Kelly completed on Friday his first anniversary as Collector of the First District of New York. The esteem in which Mr. Kelly is held by the office force was shown in the presentation of a huge basket of magnificent American Beauty roses and maidenhair fern, bearing a card on which was inscribed, "Anniversary, May 1, 1896."

From the Eighth Ward Bank, of which Mr. Kelly is president, a basket of La France roses and ferns and asparagus ferns was sent, with best wishes.

Mr. Kelly expressed much pleasure when he reached his private office and found the fragrant testimonials on his desk, genially remarking that the elevator boy had spoken of an "anniversary" but that he had thought "some Sunday school occasion" was being referred to, and had not anticipated this.

Much satisfaction has been felt throughout the office during the year of Mr. Kelly's administration, and the business condition has never been better.

The collection of revenue during the year amounts to \$7,020,000, which is \$1,200,000 in excess of any previous year by collection. The expenses of the office have not exceeded \$50,000. As the general collections of revenue have been diminishing throughout the country, this showing is remarkably good.

TO BE A MILITARY CLUB.

New Life to Be Given to the Algonquin by the Admission of Guardsmen.

The Algonquin Club, of Brooklyn, which recently had been losing steadily in prestige and membership, is beginning to revive. It has long been one of the coziest clubs on the Heights, but it is now proposed to transplant it.

Arrangements are being made to open a new clubhouse in Bedford avenue, near the Twenty-third Regiment Armory. There it will be convenient for the Guardsmen, many of whom are anxious to join the club. The Board of Governors met recently and considered the applications for membership of a number of military men. Their admission, it is believed, will give new life to the club.

If McKinley Is Elected—

Politicians are beginning to speculate on the possibilities of Thomas Fitch as an Administration leader in Brooklyn if Major McKinley should succeed Grover Cleveland as President. Mr. Fitch is looked upon as the local representative of the McKinley interests. Charles A. Moore, of the Montauk Club, who is close to Mr. McKinley, is doing active missionary work. Political prophets predict that Mr. Moore will be Collector of the Port if Ohio's favorite is elected.

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Decker & Son



Modern Piano at a Modern Price and on Modern Terms.

CALL AND EXAMINE THE

NEW "1896" SCALE.

OTHER MAKES IF DESIRED.

NEW UPRIGHTS RENTED, \$3 MONTHLY.

Pianos taken in exchange or bought for cash at HIGHEST PRICES.

This week we offer the following

BARGAINS:

Steinway Upright, - - \$325

Haines Bros. Upright, 250

Krakauer Upright, - - 200

Behr Bros. Upright, - 175

Pond Upright, - - - 125

Yose & Co., - - - 100

Vinton, - - - 80

20 SQUARE PIANOS from \$15 up.

CHARLES & MAYER,

641 Fulton Street, Brooklyn.

Nearly opposite Looser's. Open Evenings.

NO MONEY REQUIRED.

EVERYTHING FOR HOUSEKEEPING.

Make your own terms. The finest and best assorted stock in the city. We never take advantage of customers who get in arrears through no fault of theirs. Call and see for yourself.

LONG ISLAND FURNITURE CO.,

46 to 48 MYRTLE AVE.,

Brooklyn, N. Y.

2 doors from Canal St.

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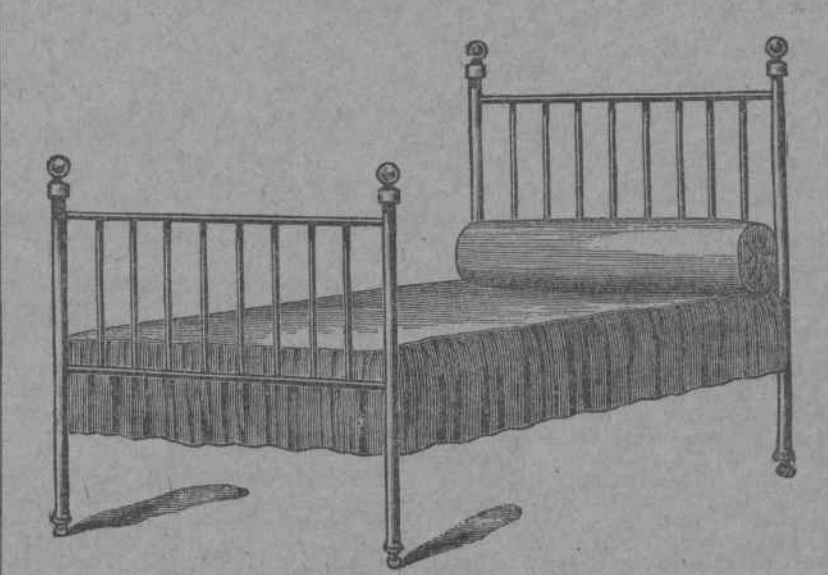
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BROOKLYN FURNITURE COMPANY.

TWO GREAT LEADERS AT HALF REGULAR PRICES.

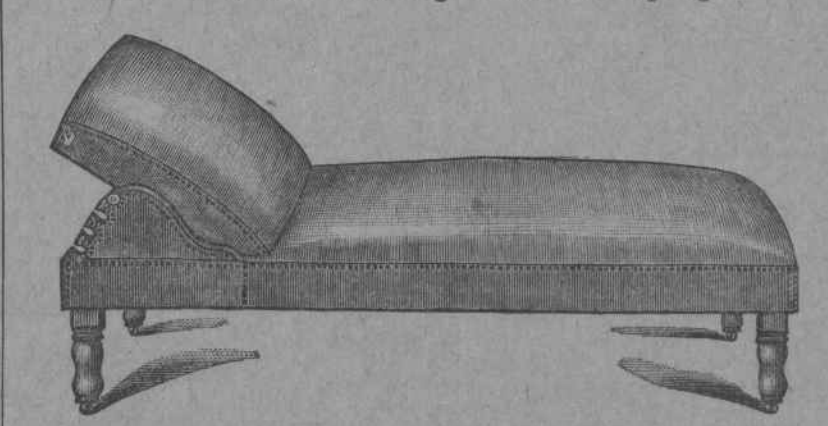
SPECIAL SALE White Enamel Iron Bedsteads, Brass Trim, including WOVEN WIRE Spring.

SPECIAL SALE Adjustable Head Couches, covered in imported Madras Cloth, better than reed or rattan.



This Bedstead, exactly same as cut, is Brass Trimmed, Adjustable Casters, 1 1/8 inch post, heavy, strong and durable.

- No. 1.—\$4.00, including Woven Wire Spring.
- No. 2.—\$4.50, including Woven Wire Spring.
- No. 3.—\$5.00, including Woven Wire Spring.
- No. 4.—\$5.50, including Woven Wire Spring.



Only \$6.50, Made to Sell for \$13.00.

Adjustable head to any position; covered with imported Madras Cloth; will wear better, is neater and more comfortable than either reed or rattan. Call and see it.

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MASON'S,
Myrtle Ave., Corner Bridge St.,
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ESTABLISHED 50 YEARS AGO.

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Everything for Housekeeping.

Easy Terms to Suit Every One.

\$14.75, Worth \$25.00,

For this handsome Solid Antique Oak Chamber Suit, large French Oval Plate, nicely Carved and well finished—a thoroughly fine suit in every respect.

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FULTON AND HOYT STS., BROOKLYN.

Window Shades and Screens.

All our Shades, Screens, Screen Doors, Shade Lettering and Plaiding done on the premises. Estimates cheerfully furnished.

SHADE
This is a new and improved Shade Cloth, patent spring rollers, worth 60c, ea. 15c. Window Shades of the best Opague Shade Cloth, patent spring rollers, heavy knotted fringe, regularly sold for 75c, special 35c. Extra fine quality Oil Opague Shades, Hart's horn's patent spring rollers, double knotted fringe, worth 85c, at... 59c.

Best quality Screen Wire Cloth, per yd... 6c. Screen Doors, will fit any ordinary door, worth \$1.25, for... 59c. Roebuck's Adjustable Screens, fit any size window, worth 50c, at... 23c. Screen Frames, to make your own screens, all complete, per set... 17c.

Lace Curtains.

1,500 pairs Lace Curtains, 8 to 10 different designs in white and ecru, all 2 1/2 yds. long, full width; made to sell for \$1.25 to \$2.00; special, per pair... 85c.

Cross Stripe Cottage Curtains, in full line of colors, value \$2.00, at... \$1.25. 40-in. Colored Figured Swiss, yd. 10c. White Dotted Swiss, 90c. quality 12c. Tambour Muslin, with Embroidery, worth 20c, yd... 12c. 75c. Carriage Parasol Lace Covers, 39c.

Curtain Poles.

Extra long lengths, reduced to less than half; cherry ash and walnut. 7 ft. long, worth 35c, at each... 15c. 10 ft. long, worth 50c, at each... 20c. 12 ft. long, worth 60c, at each... 25c. 16 ft. long, worth \$2.00, at each... 49c. Banner Poles, with crossbar... 49c. Complete line of Fringes, Tassels, Cord, etc., for Banners for Anniversary Day at lowest prices.

Chenille Table Covers.

4-4 Chenille Covers, worth 50c... 25c. 4-4 Chenille Covers, worth 85c... 49c. 8-4 Chenille Covers, worth \$2.00... \$1.25.

Rug Department.

5c. Carpet Lining, yd... 2c. 35c. Oilcloth, 1 yd. wide... 19c. 45c. Oilcloth, 1 1/2 yds. wide... 24c. 50c. Oilcloth, 1 1/2 yds. wide... 29c. 75c. Oilcloth, 2 yds. wide... 49c. \$1.25 Oilcloth, 2 1/2 yds. wide... 49c. Brussels Rugs, 2x30, worth \$1.50, special... 77c. Ingrain Rugs, 22x45, worth 75c, special... 29c. 150 Sheepskin Mats, each... 49c. Bamboo Porch Screens, 8x6 ft., worth \$2.00, special... 72c. Japanese Bamboo Portieres, slightly damaged, each... 49c. Remnants Heavy China Mats, worth 20c, special, yd... 6c. 25c. Matting Mats, each... 9c.

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4-4 Chenille Covers, worth 50c... 25c. 4-4 Chenille Covers, worth 85c... 49c. 8-4 Chenille Covers, worth \$2.00... \$1.25.

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Chenille Table Covers.

4-4 Chenille Covers, worth 50c... 25c. 4-4 Chenille Covers, worth 85c... 49c. 8-4 Chenille Covers, worth \$2.00... \$1.25.

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